**Migration of Psychiatrists from AIIMS and NIMHANS**

2118. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in recent years, a large number of specialists of Psychiatry including eminent professors from AIIMS and NIMHANS have left India for foreign countries, causing an alarming shortage in major institutes and hospitals;

(b) the estimated number of Psychiatrists left India since 2003 and names of the countries to which they have migrated; and

(c) the causes responsible for the large scale migration of specialists and the remedial action taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Over the past few years, there has been an increase in the number of psychiatrists seeking employment in advanced countries like U.S.A., U.K. and Australia owing to the demand of such Specialists in these countries, owing to improvement in one's prospects, professional, academic and financial considerations which happens world-wide.

The data relating to the number of Psychiatrists who left India for foreign countries are not centrally maintained. Since 2003, 4 Psychiatrists of AIIMS and 3 Psychiatrists of NIMHANS have resigned sought voluntary retirement to go to UK/Australia.

The Central Government is providing asistance for upgrading psychiatric wards of Government Medical Colleges so as to enable them to start Post Graduate Courses.

**Medical Tourism**

2119. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is emerging as one of the favourite destination for medical tourist in Asia, as per report appearing in an UNCTAD expert paper on general agreement in trade and services;

(b) if so, the details of medical tourist who visited the country during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) the reasons for the visits of overwhelming tourists; and